

Appl. No. 10/073,764
Reply to Office Action Dated March 23, 2006

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An image capturing device, comprising:
a memory storing an enable state variable ~~and a set of enable commands;~~
a ~~communications device~~ wireless receiver capable of receiving a wirelessly transmitted ~~an enable command and a disable command;~~ and
a processor configured to communicate ~~communicating~~ with said memory and with said ~~communications device~~ wireless receiver, with said processor further being configured to receive an enable/disable communication from said communication device, interpreting said enable/disable communication using said set of enable commands, and setting said enable state variable in response;
~~wherein said image capturing device is disabled for image capturing device operations when said enable state variable is set to a disable state and is enabled when said enable state variable is set to an enable state~~ disable said image capturing device for image capturing device operation in response to said wireless receiver receiving said wirelessly transmitted disable command.
2. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, further comprising wherein said ~~communications device comprises~~ an input/output (I/O) port capable of communicating with an external device.
3. Cancelled.

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4. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, further comprising wherein said
~~communications device comprises~~ a removable media interface and a removable medium
plugged into said removable media interface.

5. (Original) The device of claim 4, wherein said removable medium further
comprises a removable memory medium.

6. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 4, wherein said removable medium
further comprises a removable memory medium and wherein said removable memory
medium comprises: a connector for electrically connecting to said removable media
interface; and a memory communicating with said connector and storing ~~an~~ a second enable
state variable; wherein said second enable state variable is loaded into said image capturing
device and enables or disables said image capturing device.

7. (Original) The device of claim 6, with said memory further storing an image
capturing device identifier, wherein said removable memory medium does not enable said
image capturing device unless said image capturing device identifier corresponds to said
image capturing device.

8. (Original) The device of claim 4, wherein said removable medium further
comprises a dongle, with said dongle including circuitry that enables said image capturing
device.

9. (Original) The device of claim 1, further comprising a temporary enable state
variable that overrides said enable state variable when said temporary enable state variable is
set to a disable state.

10. (Currently Amended) An image capturing method for an image capturing device,
comprising the steps of:

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wirelessly receiving at the image capturing device a disable command transmitted from wireless transmitter;

changing the state of an enable state variable from an enable state to a disable state in response to receiving said disable command;

receiving a shutter command;

checking ~~an~~ said state of said enable state variable to see if said image capturing device is enableddetermine whether said state of said enable state variable is set to the disable state; and

performing image capturing device operations if and only if said state of said enable state variable is set to ~~an~~ said enable state.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising the steps of:
receiving an enable/disable command in a communication device of said image capturing device; and
toggling said enable state variable in response.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said enable/disable command is received from an input/output (I/O) port on said image capturing device.

13. Cancelled.

14. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said enable/disable command is received from a removable medium plugged into a removable media interface of said image capturing device.

15. Cancelled.

16. Cancelled.

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17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of checking a temporary enable state variable to see if said image capturing device is temporarily disabled, wherein image capturing operations are performed if said enable state variable is set to an enable state and if said temporary enable state variable is set to an enable state.

18-24. Cancelled.

25. (New) An image capturing device having a corresponding image capturing device identifier, said image capturing device comprising:

a first storage device storing an enable state variable;

a second storage device storing an image capturing device identifier, wherein said second storage device comprises a removable memory;

a processor configured to (a) communicate with said first and second storage devices, (b) determine whether said image capturing device identifier stored in said second storage device matches said image capturing device identifier that corresponds to said image capturing device, and (c) set a state of the enable state variable to an enable state in response to determining that said image capturing device identifier stored in said second storage device matches said image capturing device identifier that corresponds to said image capturing device.

26. (New) The image capturing device of claim 25, further comprising a wireless receiver capable of receiving a wirelessly transmitted disable command.

27. (New) The image capturing device of claim 26, wherein said processor is further configured to (a) communicate with said wireless receiver, and (b) disable said image capturing device for image capturing device operation in response to said wireless receiver receiving said wirelessly transmitted disable command.